

IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT

L O D G E D

JAN 21 1966

WILLIAM E. WILSON, Clerk

RAYMOND R. BEASLEY,
Appellant,
v.
PETER J. PITCHESS, SHERIFF,
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE
OF CALIFORNIA,
Appellees.

NO. 20237

APPELLEES BRIEF

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District Attorney of Los Angeles
County, State of California

By

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Chief, Appellate Division

ROBERT J. LORD
Deputy District Attorney
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INTRODUCTION

This Brief is filed on behalf of the Sheriff of the County of Los Angeles, State of California, and of The People of the State of California, as a Real Party in Interest by Evelle J. Younger, District Attorney of the County of Los Angeles, State of California.

We will first discuss whether Appellant's rights under the United States Constitution have been infringed; then we will consider the basic facts and proceedings in the State Courts in order to show that there was no lack of due process accorded the petitioner in these courts either.

On November 15, 1962, the petitioner was indicted by the Grand Jury for selling marijuana on or about August 3, 1962 (Count I), and for selling heroin on or about August 8, 1962 (Count II). Petitioner was arraigned on these charges in the California Superior Court on August 28, 1964. Petitioner claims that this long delay has denied him the right to a speedy trial, which he claims is guaranteed him by the United States Constitution.

It is our position that the United States Constitution protects a defendant from a denial of a speedy trial only insofar as the delay precludes a fair determination of the charges pending against the defendant. See United States v. Fay (2d Cir. 1963), 33 Fed. 2d 620, cert. denied 365 US 817, 5 Fed. 2d 695, 81 S.Ct. 699; Polon v. Grieco (D.N.J. 1964), 226 F. Supp. 414. As is indicated by these cases in order for a defendant to rely upon the United States Constitution, he must claim and prove prejudice resulting from the delay in his trial. In the instant case, no prejudice is claimed, let alone proved, and consequently it is not necessary to consider the applicability to the United States Constitution since the instant case presents no federal question.

We also submit that the evidence in this case establishes good cause for the delay in the trial of petitioner's case.

GOOD CAUSE

While petitioner was represented by counsel on his motion to dismiss for alleged lack of a speedy trial, the following evidence was adduced at hearings on the motion (references are to Reporter's transcript of proceedings in Los Angeles Superior Court):

William H. Slagle, a police officer for the City of Los Angeles, checked the jail records of the Los Angeles County and City jails on November 14, 1964, (the day before the indictment) to ascertain whether the petitioner was incarcerated in jail. On November 17th, Officer Slagle telephoned several of the little towns bordering the city limits of Los Angeles to ascertain whether Beasley might be a prisoner in one of these outlying areas. Slagle was unable to locate Beasley by these means. (Rep. Tr. pp. 64-68.)

On November 15, 16 and 17, 1962, over 75 officers of the Los Angeles Police Department were assigned the specific task of locating suspects wanted for narcotic violations who had been indicted by the Grand Jury. One of these suspects was the petitioner, [affidavit of Burt Cain, an officer assigned to the Los Angeles Police Department; although portions of Officer Cain's affidavit were ordered stricken by the trial court, other portions were admitted into evidence (Rep. Tr. p. 78] and only those portions of Officer Cain's affidavit which were admitted into evidence are relied on herein).

One of these 75 officers was Officer Slagle who went to the area of Adams and Normandie looking for petitioner. (Rep. Tr. p. 66.) During the three days of the round-up, Officer Slagle checked that area several times and thereafter checked it off and on. (Rep. Tr. p. 67.) During the course of the round-up, Officer Slagle looked for Beasley ten, fifteen or twenty times. (Rep. Tr. p. 68.)

Another officer who participated in searching for persons indicted by the Grand Jury during this round-up was Lee W. Moody. (Rep. Tr. pp. 70-71.) Officer Moody had seen petitioner on numerous

casions around the Adams and Normandie area and was aware that petitioner had lived in the Cozy Island Motel, which is on the north-st corner, east of the service station at Normandie and Adams. (Rep. Tr. p. 71.) After learning that petitioner had been indicted the Grand Jury, Officer Moody went to the corner of Normandie and Adams numerous times and checked the hot dog stand there. (Rep. Tr. p. 71.) He also went to the manager of the Cozy Island Motel during the round-up and checked with him. (Rep. Tr. pp. 71-72.) At the Cozy Island Motel, Officer Moody made inquiries as to a new address for petitioner, but was unable to obtain a new address. (Rep. Tr. p. 73.) He checked with numerous people on the street that he knew from frequenting that area. (Rep. Tr. pp. 71-72.) No one knew of petitioner's whereabouts. (Rep. Tr. p. 72.)

Officer Moody went to an address on 33rd Street and checked for petitioner there but discovered that petitioner was not there. (Rep. Tr. p. 73.) At that address he talked to some woman who lived there and stated that petitioner had gone and that she did not know where petitioner went. (Rep. Tr. p. 73.) Officer Moody believes he checked with this woman on a Sunday night and she told him that petitioner had left on a Thursday night or early Friday morning, but that she did not know where he had gone. (Rep. Tr. pp. 73-74.)

Percy H. Thompson is the police officer who testified before the Grand Jury in regard to the case now pending against petitioner. (Rep. Tr. p. 75.) After learning that petitioner had been indicted, Officer Thompson went to the address which he knew as petitioner's residence and talked with a female there who stated that petitioner had left hurriedly for an undisclosed location. The address that

icer Thompson checked was 339 East 33rd Street. Officer Thompson e this check on either November 20th or 21st, 1962. On two other asions Officer Thompson looked for petitioner in the vicinity of mandie and Adams but was unable to locate petitioner. This was er November of 1962. (Rep. Tr. pp. 76-78.)

On November 17, 1962, an all-points bulletin was dispatched the Los Angeles Police Department teletype listing the name of itioner and his description as an outstanding narcotic sale sus- t. This teletype is received by virtually all law enforcement ncies in the State of California, and should petitioner be placed er arrest by any law enforcement agency within this state, a munication of this fact would be sent to the Los Angeles Police artment. (Affidavit of Burt Cain.)

The evidence indicates that the first time an officer from Los Angeles Police Department became aware of the whereabouts of itioner after his indictment was on or about August 15, 1964, when eletype was received from San Francisco indicating that petitioner in their custody. (Affidavit of Burt Cain.)

Petitioner was arrested in San Francisco on or about ruary 19, 1964, at which time petitioner had no identification on at all and used the name of Raymond Sweetwyne. (Rep. Tr. p. 28.) itioner was booked under this name and gave no middle initial. p. Tr. pp. 28-29.) The arresting officer never knew petitioner er any other name than Sweetwyne until he received a subpoena to tify in November, 1964. (Rep. Tr. p. 31.) At the time petitioner, as Sweetwyne, was arrested, the arresting officer checked him out ough the Central Warrant Bureau in San Francisco under the name Raymond Sweetwyne. (Rep. Tr. p. 32.)

Petitioner testified that all of his friends knew him by name Raymond Beasley. (Rep. Tr. p. 46.) Petitioner worked and paid under the name Raymond Beasley. (Rep. Tr. pp. 47, 57.)

Petitioner's professional name in athletics was Raymond R. Beasley. (Rep. Tr. p. 51.) There is no question in petitioner's mind that his name is Raymond Beasley and that is the name on his identification from the Merchant Marines. (Rep. Tr. pp. 57-58.) However, when he was arrested he used the name Sweetwyne even though he did not use that name often. (Rep. Tr. p. 47.) Sweetwyne is a family name. (Rep. Tr. p. 47.) Petitioner, according to his testimony, used the name Raymond Sweetwyne when he was arrested because he was "provoked by the officer." (Rep. Tr. p. 58.) At the time the petitioner was brought down to the station and booked and his fingerprints were taken and he signed the name Raymond Sweetwyne, he did so because he was "still provoked with the officer." (Rep. Tr. p. 58.)

Just prior to leaving Los Angeles, petitioner lived at an address which he does not know, but the address 339 East 33rd Street rings a bell with petitioner. (Rep. Tr. p. 53.)

THE FACTS PRESENTED ESTABLISH GOOD CAUSE

We submit the facts as above outlined presented to the California Superior Court establish good cause for the delay in bringing petitioner to trial. We submit that the police did all that was reasonably possible in an effort to locate the petitioner, namely, they went to those places which petitioner was known to frequent in Los Angeles and they then put out an all-points bulletin

all other law enforcement agencies in the state regarding the
grant outstanding petitioner when they were unable to find
petitioner in Los Angeles and vicinity. It is true that petitioner
and himself in the clutches of the law in February, 1964, and
obviously the San Francisco law enforcement agency did not dis-
cover the fact that the person whom they had arrested was the same
person who was wanted by the Los Angeles Police Department. Of
course, petitioner attempts to explain away the fact that he was
doubtedly responsible in great part for this oversight due to
his use of a "family name," which name was one that he did not
usually use nor was it a name that was used among his acquaintances,
or on the various jobs he held. Petitioner's sole explanation for
the use of this name is that he was "provoked" into using it. We
submit that the court below had every right to reasonably conclude
that such an explanation was false, and that petitioner became a
fugitive from justice when he left Los Angeles, and desired to cover
his true identity in order to evade any possible trouble he had
run into in Los Angeles. We submit that it is quite reasonable
to conclude that petitioner somehow became aware of the narcotic
rund-up that took place, and fled Los Angeles since he had sold
narcotics to an undercover police officer, and that he kept his true
identity from the San Francisco police to avoid criminal responsibility
for crimes he committed while in Los Angeles.

CONCLUSION

We submit that even if petitioner was justifiably "provoked" to using a family name, as he claims, the law should not be "provoked" into granting him immunity for the criminal conduct alleged against him. He only faces a fair trial in a fair forum. His appeal should be denied.

Respectfully submitted,

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By

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CERTIFICATE

I certify that in accordance with the preparation of this brief, I have examined Rules 18 and 19 of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and that, in my opinion, the foregoing brief is in substantial compliance with those rules.

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